



EFW

Docket No. K00-103681M/TBS

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of

Shirou NAKANO, et al.

Serial No.: 10/696,508

Group Art Unit: 3661

Filed: October 30, 2003

Examiner: Louis Jacques, Jacques H.

For: VEHICLE STEERING APPARATUS

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 through §1.98 and pursuant to applicants' duty of disclosure under 37 CFR §1.56, applicants respectfully bring the following documents, cited in the European Search Report and listed on the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Copies of the listed documents are provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner. This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a corresponding Search Report citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Search Report indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was the first citation of that item by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application which occurred not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

Docket No. K06-163681M/TBS

Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to Attorney's  
Deposit Account No. 50-0481.

Respectfully submitted,



Scott M. Tulino, Esq.

Registration No. 48,317

Sean M. McGinn, Esq.

Registration No.: 34,386

Date: February 1, 2006

**MCGINN INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

**LAW GROUP, PLLC**

8321 Old Courthouse Road, Suite 200

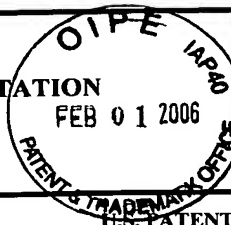
Vienna, VA 22182-3817

(703) 761-4100

Customer No. 21254

# INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)



Docket Number (Optional)  
K06-163681M/TBS

Application Number  
10/696,508

Applicant(s)  
Shirou NAKANO, et al.

Filing Date  
October 30, 2003

Group Art Unit  
3661

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | NAME        | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------|------------|-------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                      |     | 6,250,421 B1    | 06/26/2001 | Poshadlo    |       |          |                               |
|                      |     | 4,862,486       | 08/29/1989 | Wing et al. |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |            |             |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |            |             |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |            |             |       |          |                               |

## U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|-----|-----------------|------|------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
|                      |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |
|                      |     |                 |      |      |       |          |                               |

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

|  | REF | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE       | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | Translation |    |
|--|-----|-----------------|------------|---------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
|  |     |                 |            |         |       |          | YES         | NO |
|  |     | EP 1 338 446 A2 | 08/27/2003 | Europe  |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |            |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |            |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |            |         |       |          |             |    |
|  |     |                 |            |         |       |          |             |    |

## OTHER DOCUMENTS

(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
|  |  | European Search Report dated December 14, 2005. |
|  |  |   |

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.